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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/525,243	02/22/2005	Yoshihiro Takahashi	122079	5365

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EXAMINER

MAKIYA, DAVID J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2875

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/525,243

Applicant(s)

TAKAHASHI ET AL.

Examiner

David J. Makiya

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/22/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9-10, 12-13, and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lyons (US Patent 5,660,457).

With respect to claim 1, Lyons teaches a door mirror equipped with a lamp body 14, comprising a mirror portion 27 and the lamp body provided in a housing 10, wherein the lamp body is incorporated into the housing in a direction opposite to the mirror portion (Figure 3), and a fixing portion (22, 23) for fixing the lamp body to the housing is covered with a cover 21 which is formed separately from the lamp body and covers the housing (Column 3, Lines 29-40).

With respect to claim 3, Lyons teaches the door mirror equipped with a lamp body wherein the lamp body is fixed to the housing via fixing pieces mounted on the base body (22, 23).

With respect to claims 4 and 7, Lyons teaches the door mirror equipped with a lamp body wherein the cover is provided approximately flush with the lens portion of the lamp body (Column 2, Line 67 – Column 3, Line 7).

With respect to claim 9, Lyons teaches a door mirror for a vehicle, comprising a mirror housing 7 having an open side and a swelled opposite side (Figure 3); a positionable mirror 27

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mounted in the open side; and a light assembly 14 mounted in the swelled opposite side, wherein the swelled opposite side has an opening for receiving the light assembly (Figure 3).

With respect to claims 10 and 13, Lyons teaches the door mirror wherein the light assembly is a sealed assembly comprising an outer base 14; a lens portion 12 sealably mounted to the outer base; and an inner base 15 mounted between the outer base and the lens portion.

With respect to claim 12, Lyons teaches the door mirror wherein the opening in the swelled opposite side is in a lower portion of the mirror housing (Figure 1) and the door mirror further comprises a cover 10 removably mounted to an upper portion of the swelled opposite side (Column 3, Lines 29-40).

With respect to claim 15, Lyons teaches a door mirror comprising a housing 7; a mirror portion 27 provided in the housing; a lamp body 14; and a cover 10 covering the housing in a direction opposite to the mirror portion, wherein the mirror portion, lamp body and cover are formed separately (Column 2, Line 76 – Column 3, Line 7), the lamp body provided with a fixing portion (22, 23) for fixing the lamp body to the housing in the direction opposite to the mirror portion.

With respect to claim 16, Lyons teaches the door mirror wherein the lamp body comprises an outer base 14; an inner base 15; and a lens portion 12, the outer base and lens portion sealingly attached to one another with the inner base there between (Figure 3).

With respect to claim 17, Lyons teaches the door mirror wherein the inner base mounts at least one light emitting element 18.

With respect to claim 18, Lyons teaches the door mirror wherein the housing has an opening substantially in an entire lower portion in the direction opposite to the mirror portion and the lamp body is mounted therein (Figure 1).

With respect to claim 19, Lyons teaches the door mirror wherein the outer base includes mounting portions 23 and the lamp body is mounted to the housing by the mounting portions.

With respect to claim 20, Lyons teaches the door mirror wherein the cover and the lamp body together form a substantially smooth swelling portion in the direction opposite to the mirror portion (Column 2, Line 67 – Column 3, Line 7).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 5-6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lyons in view of Kayama (US Patent 6,250,784).

With respect to claim 2, Lyons teaches the door mirror equipped with a lamp body wherein the lamp body is structured to be a lamp unit by integrating a lens portion 12 covering the back face of an inner base 15 into a base body having an inner base exposing a light source 18 through its back face and an outer base covering the front face of the inner base and incorporating a board supplying power to the light source between the outer base and the inner base (Figure 3). However, Lyons fails to teach the base body and the lens portion are integrated by an injected resin material. Kayama teaches a door mirror 1 equipped with a lamp 2, a base

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body 11 and a lens portion 11 that is integrated by an injected resin material (Column 3, Lines 39-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the door mirror of Lyons with the teachings of Kayama because integrating a base body and lens portion with a resin material that would reduce manufacturing costs by minimizing parts and ensure a watertight seal to prevent damaging the lamp.

With respect to claim 5, Lyons teaches the door mirror equipped with a lamp body wherein the lamp body is fixed to the housing via fixing pieces mounted on the base body (22, 23).

With respect to claims 6 and 8, Lyons teaches the door mirror equipped with a lamp body wherein the cover is provided approximately flush with the lens portion of the lamp body (Column 2, Line 67 – Column 3, Line 7).

Claims 11 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lyons in view of Weber et al. (US Patent 6,561,685).

With respect to claims 11 and 14, Lyons teaches the door mirror wherein the inner base comprises a base plate 15 with a reflective coating; and a light emitting element 18. However, Lyons fails to teach the door mirror comprising a plurality of light emitting elements and at least one circuit board for controlling the light emitting elements. Weber et al. teaches a door mirror 1 with a lamp body 3, a plurality of light emitting elements 8 and at least one circuit board (7, 9) for controlling the light emitting elements (Column 2, Lines 58-64). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the number of light emitting elements of Lyons with the teachings of Weber et al. because using a plurality of light emitting diodes on a circuit board will provide a controlled light emission with low thermal

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degradation and a long service life (Weber et al.: Column 1, Lines 31-50) and increasing the number of light sources increases the total amount of illumination creating a brighter light.

Conclusion


The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Matsumoto et al. (US Patent 6,897,614) teaches a door mirror with light emitting diodes and a circuit board.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David J. Makiya whose telephone number is (571) 272-2273. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30am - 4:00pm (ET).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DJM 07/06/2006


JOHN ANTHONY WARD
PRIMARY EXAMINER